

THE HONORABLE KAYE K. CHRISTIAN
ASSOCIATE JUDGE
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

President George H.W. Bush appointed Judge Kaye K. Christian to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia in 1990.

Judge Christian was born in Lynchburg, Virginia. She attended the public schools in the District of Columbia until her graduation from Dunbar Senior High School in 1971. She earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in American Government in 1975 from Georgetown University and a law degree in 1978 from Georgetown University Law Center. Judge Christian was the first recipient of the Georgetown University Benjamin Banneker Scholarship Fund in 1971.

After graduating from law school in 1978, Judge Christian began her legal career with the Office of General Counsel, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The following year, she served as law clerk to the Honorable Henry H. Kennedy, Jr. After completing her judicial clerkship, Judge Christian joined the Office of the Corporation Counsel for the District of Columbia, now known as the Office of the Attorney General. As a trial assistant, she prosecuted juvenile delinquents, child abuse and neglect matters, domestic violence, in addition to abuse and neglect of the elderly. In 1983, Judge Christian was promoted to supervisor of trial attorneys with the Intra-Family Offense Unit of the Office of the Corporation Counsel, where she remained until 1987. In 1987, Judge Christian was sworn in as a Hearing Commissioner, now called Magistrate Judge, for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, where she presided in the Civil, Criminal, and Family Divisions of the Court.

Since her appointment as an Associate Judge in 1990, Judge Christian has served in every division of the Court, including the Probate and Tax Divisions. She served as Presiding and Deputy Presiding Judge of the Probate and Tax Divisions of the Court, from 2001 to 2003 and 1996 to 1999 respectively, as well as Deputy Presiding Judge of the Family Division, renamed the Family Court, from 2000 to 2001.

Her professional and bar affiliations include the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States of America, the National Association of Women Judges, the District of Columbia Bar, the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, the Judicial Council of the Washington Bar Association, and the Women's Bar Association.

Currently, Judge Christian serves as Chairperson of the Committee on the Utilization of Magistrate and Senior Judges; Co-Chairperson of the Neglect and Adoptions Subcommittee; a member of the Committee on the Selection and Tenure of Magistrate Judges; a member of the Standing Committee on Fairness and Access to the District of Columbia Courts; a member of the Family Court Implementation Committee; and a member of the Superior Court Rules Committee.

Judge Christian has received a number of awards for Judicial Excellence including: the Award of Appreciation for Contributions to the Bench and Bar presented by the Estates, Trusts and Probate Law Section of the District of Columbia Bar, 2004; the Award of Judicial Excellence presented by the American Bar Association, Judicial Division, 1998; Special Recognition Award for Judicial Independence, presented by the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, 1994; and the H. Carl Moultrie Award for Judicial Excellence presented by the Trial Lawyers Association of Metropolitan Washington, D.C., 1995.

Judge Christian is married and has one son. For the past thirty-seven years, Judge Christian has enjoyed teaching Sunday school in her spare time. Aside from teaching children, Judge Christian often conducts training workshops for senior citizen groups on estate, trusts and probate matters at various churches in the community. In addition, Judge Christian provided training to doctors, nurses, social workers and other staff at local hospitals on Guardianship and Conservatorship matters. Judge Christian has enjoyed serving the court as well as the community and will continue to do so in the future.